Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai (*Municipal Councils*): May I know whether patients are put to the necessity of lying on the floor for want of beds?

Dr. S. John: Certainly.

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai: May I know whether that will not aggravate their disease?

Dr. S. John: It will not.

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai: May I know whether it is not possible to provide beds for them also?

Dr. S. John: New wards have been constructed only recently. As soon as furniture and everything else are provided these patients will be given beds.

T. B. Hospital, Nagercoil.

102. * **Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether for all the paywards together there is only one water-tap situated in the middle for taking water for all of them for all the purposes and that this is causing very serious inconvenience and trouble for the inmates of the paywards:

(*b*) whether it is a fact that even in that single water tap there will be no flow of water before 7 A. M. after 8 A. M. til 1 11 A. M. and after 12 noon to 4 P. M.;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the water necessary for the use of the Hospital and the patients is stored from a well situated very close to the general ward;

(*d*) what is the distance between the well and the general ward Nos. 1 & 2;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that the close proximity of the well to the general ward is a source of contagion of the disease and is unhygienic;

(*f*) whether it is a fact that there will be only about one foot of water in the well during the months of Meenam, Medom and Kumbhom yearly;

(*g*) whether there are other wells in the Hospital compound situated away from the general ward from which water could be safely collected;

(*h*) what will be the cost of constructing the necessary works for storing water from that well;

(*i*) what will be the nearest distance between the Nagercoil water pipe line and the T. B. Hospital;

(*j*) what will be the amount necessary to connect the said pipe water line with the T. B. Hospital; and

(*k*) whether it is a fact that there are large quantities of pipes lying unused at Muttom, useful for the water pipe line?

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Dr. S. John : (*a*) At present there is only one water-tap for four paywards and this is not so convenient as each having a separate tap.

(*b*) The electric current will not be available between 7 A. M. to 10 A. M. and during these three hours the motor of the pumping plant cannot be worked. During the rest of the day and night water from the well is pumped up into the over-head tank to the extent available in the well.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) 10 ft. and 200 ft. respectively.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) No. There will be about 4 ft. of water even during the hot months.

(*g*) Yes.

(*h*) Rs. 10,000 roughly.

(*i*) About two miles.

(*j*) Rs. 39,200.

(*k*) None at Muttom. But pipes got down for the Muttom Water Supply Scheme are available in the Water Works Stores at Nagercoil and they will be required for the Muttom Water Supply Scheme.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : Answer to part (a) says "at present there is only one water tap for four paywards and this is not so convenient as each having a separate tap."

May I know whether all the four wards are fully occupied now ?

Dr. S. John : Yes, they are occupied.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : Then what is the meaning of this answer ? Does it not show that there are no taps for the other wards ?

Dr. S. John : Now there is only one tap. But another tap will be provided in the course of the next year. The wards are constructed only recently.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : How long is it since all the wards are managing with one tap ?

Dr. S. John : For the last few months. I cannot say the exact period.

T. B. Hospital, Nagercoil.

103. * **Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of inpatients now occupying the general wards No. 1 to 4 ; and

(*b*) the number which could be hygienically accommodated in the 4 wards, and the reasons for the overcrowding, if any ?

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